

# METAL / NONMETAL

## Serious Injury Accident

Surface Sand and Gravel – An excavator was left parked near the edge of the lake while the miners left for lunch. When the miners returned, they found that the bank had given away and the excavator had fallen into the lake. No one was injured.



### Best Practices

- Examine work areas to identify all hazards and remediate before starting any work.
- Evaluate the stability of the ground (slopes and berms) prior to operating equipment near any drop off or edge.
- Always be attentive to changes in ground conditions and visibility when operating machinery.
- Perform the work at a safe distance away from the edge of a pond or where the stability of the ground may be unknown.
- If a potential hazard is present, use long reach equipment to limit exposure and maintain a safe distance away.
- Consider areas that have experienced previous slope failures to be unstable and do not approach until the area is evaluated for stability.
- Wear flotation devices where there is a danger of falling into water.

